AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gateway system for voice communication of a communication system for performing communication among PSTN terminals connected to a PSTN, IP terminals connected to an Internet protocol-based local area network (LAN) and remote terminals of a different area connected ~~to~~ via the Internet, the gateway system[[;]] comprising:

a PSTN gateway connected to the PSTN and the LAN for rendering the PSTN terminals connected to the PSTN and the IP terminals connected to the LAN to communicate with each other; and

an inter-gateway receiving voice packets transmitted from the PSTN gateway and from the IP terminals, and generating and transmitting compressed voice packets to the Internet, the inter-gateway receiving compressed voice packets from the Internet and uncompressing the received compressed voice packets for rendering the IP terminals and the PSTN terminals connected to ~~through~~ the PSTN gateway to communicate with the remote terminals through the Internet,

wherein voice packets from the IP terminals connected with the LAN are transmitted to the remote terminals through the inter-gateway after being compressed,

voice signals from the PSTN terminals connected with the PSTN are packetized by the PSTN gateway and transmitted to the remote terminals through the inter-gateway after being compressed, and

the PSTN terminals and the IP terminals communicate with each other by uncompressed voice packets through the PSTN gateway.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 1–2, wherein the remote terminals are remote PSTN terminals connected to another the PSTN connected to a the remote inter-gateway and remote IP terminals connected to another the LAN connected to the remote inter-gateway.

4. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 1–2, wherein the inter-gateway compresses each signal received from the PSTN and IP terminals to transmit the compressed signals to a the remote inter-gateway via the Internet, and receives the compressed signals from the remote inter-gateway, uncompresses them to restore to their original signals and transmits the restored signals them to corresponding terminals.

5. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 3–2, wherein the inter-gateway and the remote inter-gateway communicate with each other by a compressed voice signal packets.

6. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 1, wherein the packetized voice signals from the PSTN are compressed by the inter-gateway into compressed voice packets, which are then transmitted to the remote terminals over the Internet communication between the inter-gateway and the PSTN gateway and communication between the inter-gateway and the PSTN terminal are made by voice packet.

Claims 7 - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A gateway system for voice communication, the gateway system comprising:

a at least one PSTN terminal connected to a PSTN for communication;

~~an~~ at least one IP terminal connected to a local area network (LAN) for communication;

a PSTN gateway connected to the PSTN and the LAN for rendering the at least one PSTN terminal connected to the PSTN and the at least one IP terminal connected to the LAN to communicate with each other; and

an inter-gateway having CODECs, receiving voice packets transmitted from the PSTN gateway and from the at least one IP terminal to generate compressed voice packets and transmitting the generated compressed voice packets to the Internet, and receiving compressed voice packets from the Internet and uncompressing the received packets for rendering the at least one IP terminal and PSTN gateway to which the at least one PSTN terminal is connected, to communicate with ~~an IP~~ remote terminals ~~and a PSTN terminal~~ of a different area through the Internet, and

wherein voice packets from the at least one IP terminal are transmitted to one or more of the remote terminals through the inter-gateway after being compressed,

voice signals from the at lest one PSTN terminal are packetized by the PSTN gateway and transmitted to one or more of the remote terminals through the inter-gateway after being compressed, and

the at least one PSTN terminal and the at least one IP terminal communicate with each other by uncompressed voice packets through the PSTN gateway.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 19 ~~10~~, wherein communication between the inter-gateways are made in a manner that a compressed packet signal is transmitted through the Internet and the

compressed packet signal as received is uncompressed to be thereby being restored to its original signal.

12. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 9, wherein the inter-gateway communicates with the PSTN gateway or with the at least one IP terminal by uncompressed a voice packets.

13. (Currently Amended) The gateway system according to claim 9, wherein the signals transmitted and received between the PSTN terminal and the at least one IP terminal is a are uncompressed voice signal packets.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) A method for controlling a gateway system for voice communication comprising the steps of:

connecting a first terminal connected with an Internet protocol-based LAN with a first inter-gateway (MGW1) that converts a protocol of the first terminal and connects it with the Internet;

connecting the first inter-gateway and a second inter-gateway as the first terminal is connected with the first inter-gateway and transmits an ID of the second gateway connected with the Internet;

transmitting an Internet phone number of a second terminal connected with the second inter-gateway by the first terminal as the first terminal and the first and the second inter-gateways are connected with each other, and receiving a call signal from the second terminal; and

performing voice communication between the first and the second terminals

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the terminals and the inter-gateways are communicated with each other by a voice packet

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the inter-gateways are communicated with each other

18. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of performing voice communication comprising the sub-steps of:

compressing a voice signal transmitted from the terminals and transmitting the compressed voice signal to the Internet; and

uncompressing the compressed voice signal as transmitted from the Internet and transmitting the uncompressed voice to the terminals.

19. (New) The gateway system according to claim 9, wherein the remote terminals are remote PSTN terminals connected to another PSTN connected to a remote inter-gateway and remote IP terminals connected to another LAN connected to the remote inter-gateway.

20. (New) The gateway system according to claim 1, wherein the PSTN terminals and the IP terminals communicate the uncompressed voice packets with each other through the PSTN gateway without using the inter-gateway.

21. (New) The gateway system according to claim 9, wherein the at least one PSTN terminal and the at least one IP terminal communicate the uncompressed voice packets with each other through the PSTN gateway without using the inter-gateway.